



Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 2

Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2006
5:30 p.m. CST/6:30 p.m. EST

Meeting Location: LaPorte County Division of Child Services
1230 W State Road 2
LaPorte, IN 46350

Council Members Present: Charlotte Richey, Terrance Ciboch, Claudia Clark, Linda Gray, Judge Mary Harper, Larry Harris, Judge Jeryl Leach, Sharon Mathew, Linda Rugg, Judge Michael Shurn, and Eileen Walters

Council Members Absent: All Council Members were present

Others In Attendance: Ron Fisher, Laurel Myers, John Rutkowski, James Shively; CWS Coordinator, Jim Burns; Family Focus, Jackie Agee; White's Residential, Mike Knish; Dockside, and Paula Granger; Choices Counseling Services.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order at: 5:30 p.m. CST/6:30 EST

1. An updated roster for Regional 2 Juvenile Judges was distributed. The updated roster now includes Judge Potter for Jasper County
2. The Department of Child Services is going to start putting out a quarterly newsletter that compiles updates from the 18 Regional Service Councils and Central Office. The newsletter will also include comments from Judge Payne as well as questions and answers with the appropriate Deputy Director. The newsletter will be available on the Department of Child Services website. Regional Service Council meeting schedules are currently posted on the general Indiana Government page at in.govwebpage/calendar. There will soon be a direct link from the Department of Child Services homepage to the Regional Service Council information.

3. Revised Regional Service Council Protocols were distributed. The revisions were on pages 6/7 under "Participation of the Public at Meetings". At the conclusion of every agenda for a Regional Service Council meeting there will be an opportunity for questions from the community. Those wishing to participate must submit their interest in being placed on the agenda at least one week in advance of the scheduled meeting to the Regional Manager who is hosting the meeting. This must be in writing either by e-mail or written correspondence. Anyone wishing to be put on the agenda for the meeting on April 5, 2006 must notify Charlotte Richey no later than close of business on March 29, 2006. This time is not to be used for solicitation from providers nor is it to be used to discuss individual cases.
4. Minutes of the February 2, 2006 meeting were distributed. No corrections were noted. Motion was made by Terrance Ciboch and seconded by Judge Mary Harper to approve the minutes. Voice vote taken. All in favor; none opposed; no abstentions. Minutes adopted as written.
5. A master list of County IV-B money allocated to individual providers was distributed. Referring back to the voting list from last month 8/8 providers for Intensive Family Preservation was authorized and 9/9 providers for Intensive Family Reunification. Each provider was asked by the state to resubmit their proposals and to rework their unit rate. A master list of intensive Family Preservation and Intensive Family Reunification Allocations was provided. Discussion began regarding the Intensive Family Preservation and Intensive Family Reunification Providers and allocations. Topics covered included the amount of money given to some contracts, training cost per provider, who is responsible for the training cost, should providers be limited due to the training cost, if the money allocated to each county isn't used will it be lost, what is the deciding factor as to which families use these services, if a staff member of the provider leaves their employment who is responsible for the training of another staff member, how many staff members will be trained. It was decided that more information is needed before any decisions can be made. Before the next meeting Charlotte Richey and Jim Shively will provide the Council with more information regarding billing rates and cost of training. Terrance Ciboch made a motion to table talks and postpone any action on these two service components at this time. Judge Jeryl Leach seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.
6. Step Parent Adoption and Custody Studies were listed as Service Standard (d) in the MWD RFP. 5/6 Counties wanted it, but we only received two proposals covering Jasper, Newton and Starke counties. May want to go back to the drawing board and submit another proposal. If needed,

Adoption Trust Clearance Fund money can be used to contract out Adoption Home Studies.

7. A proposal was submitted for Psychosexual Testing and Treatment of Sexual Perps. It was not scored because it did not apply to this contract. There was not a service standard drafted for this. It will be discussed in the near future in there is an interest for this type of program and what types of programs are currently in place. March 21, 2006 there will be a half day seminar on Sexual Offender Monitoring for anyone that is interested it is believed to be free.
8. From the DCS Weekly Bulletin 2/6/06: An RFP for expanded foster care services is expected to be released this week. Starting July 1, 2006, it is anticipated that each “super region” will have a designated Foster Care Specialist available to assist with developing a regional improvement plan. In addition, other components of the proposal include: a needs analysis of each region; a call center; a marketing campaign and a recruitment/retention component. Please review this online proposal when it is available at www.in.gov/idoa/business and provide any questions or comments to Sandi Sleppy at sandi.sleppy@dcf.in.gov. It can also be found specifically at <http://www.in.gov/idoa/proc/bids/RFS-6-61/RFS-6-61.pdf>. The deadline for proposals is Tuesday 3/7/06 at 3:00p.m. CST. This is paid for with “state money” at 2 million a year.
9. There are two proposals being seriously considered regarding Youth Advisory Boards (YABs). YABs were listed as Service Standard (h) in the MWD RFP. We had only one county (Porter) that indicated an interest and we had no proposals submitted. This was not uncommon statewide and YABs are needed to fulfill Chaffee’s youth development requirement. Proposing a State YAB that meets four times per year and each Region has one member appointed. (The member is a foster youth from our region.)
10. Voluntary Services Caseworker (VSC) was Service Standard (g) in the MWD RFP. All 6 Counties indicated interest in this and no one submitted a proposal. Villages, currently holds the contract but they are not interested in servicing the entire state. Statewide, the only proposals received were for Marion and Tippecanoe counties. County Office is looking at bringing this in-house for negotiating with the two entities that submitted a proposal to cover the entire state.
11. Once Contracts are in place there will be a Regional Provider Fair for the newly contracted providers and Family Case Managers to meet.
12. There will be a Community Forum sometime in the future. There are no details yet, the forum will include speakers and panels, etc.
13. April is Prevent Child Abuse month. Region 2 Directors are working on compiling activities in their respective counties. If anyone is sponsoring an activity or know of one let LOD know so it can get listed.

Next Meeting Date, Location and Time: April 5, 2006 at Newton County Government Center, Morocco, Indiana at 5:30 p.m. CST/6:30 p.m. EST

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:00 p.m. CST/8:00 p.m. EST